

John Engberg House
Falkirk Vicinity
McLean County
North Dakota

HABS No. ND-26

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

JOHN ENGBERG HOUSE

HABS No. ND-26

I. INTRODUCTION

Location: The John Engberg House is located on a homestead in an area of McLean County, North Dakota, historically known as Weller. The house is about four miles west of the small community of Falkirk.

Quad: Washburn Southwest, North Dakota

UTM: Zone 11; Easting 334510; Northing 5247050

Date of Construction: 1885

Present Owner: The Falkirk Mining Company

Present Use: Abandoned

Significance: The John Engberg house is a rare example of Swedish vernacular upright log construction. The Engberg house is the first documented ethnic building of upright log construction in North Dakota.

Historian: Lon Johnson
December 1995

II. HISTORY

A. INTRODUCTION

The John Engberg house is a rare example of Swedish upright log construction. The house is located on a homestead in rural McLean County, North Dakota, in an area historically known as Weller. It is about four miles east of the small community of Falkirk (see figure 1). A cohesive community of Swedes settled in the Weller area beginning in 1882, and at least two settlers in this area, besides Engberg, constructed houses utilizing upright logs. Weller is one of four rural, Swedish settlement areas in the county.

Several historic overviews have been written for the general area of the John Engberg house.¹ A 1994 report detailed the results of a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of selected sections in Township 145 North, Range 83 West, and Township 145 North, Range 82 West. The John Engberg house was identified as a result of this survey, and determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. The historic overview for the report concentrated on rural land settlement in the area, based upon detailed examination of the land patent records.²

B. SWEDISH SETTLEMENT IN McLEAN COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

Swedish settlement patterns in North Dakota have been characterized as "intermingled in the heavy Norwegian areas and . . . widely dispersed throughout the state."³ The Swedes began arriving in North Dakota with the construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad in the early 1870s. The most concentrated populations of Swedish settlers in the state developed first along the railroad's route in the eastern counties of the Red River Valley, and then on the east side of the Missouri River in Burleigh County. As land along the railroad, and then the river valleys filled, the Swedes began settling on the treeless prairies.⁴ The initial settlement of McLean County, just to the north of Burleigh County, is credited to Swedish immigrants who began moving there in the early 1880s.⁵ The 1890 census found Swedes comprising 50 percent of the foreign-born population of McLean County.⁶

The early presence of Swedes in McLean County largely resulted from the promotional efforts of John Satterlund. Satterlund emigrated from Sweden to the United States in 1869, and arrived in Bismarck in 1873. After spending a few years in Canada, he returned to North Dakota and purchased large tracts of land in northern Burleigh County, part of which later became southern McLean County. Satterlund promoted the area to potential settlers with the cooperation of the Northern Pacific Railroad's land agents in St. Paul and Bismarck.⁷

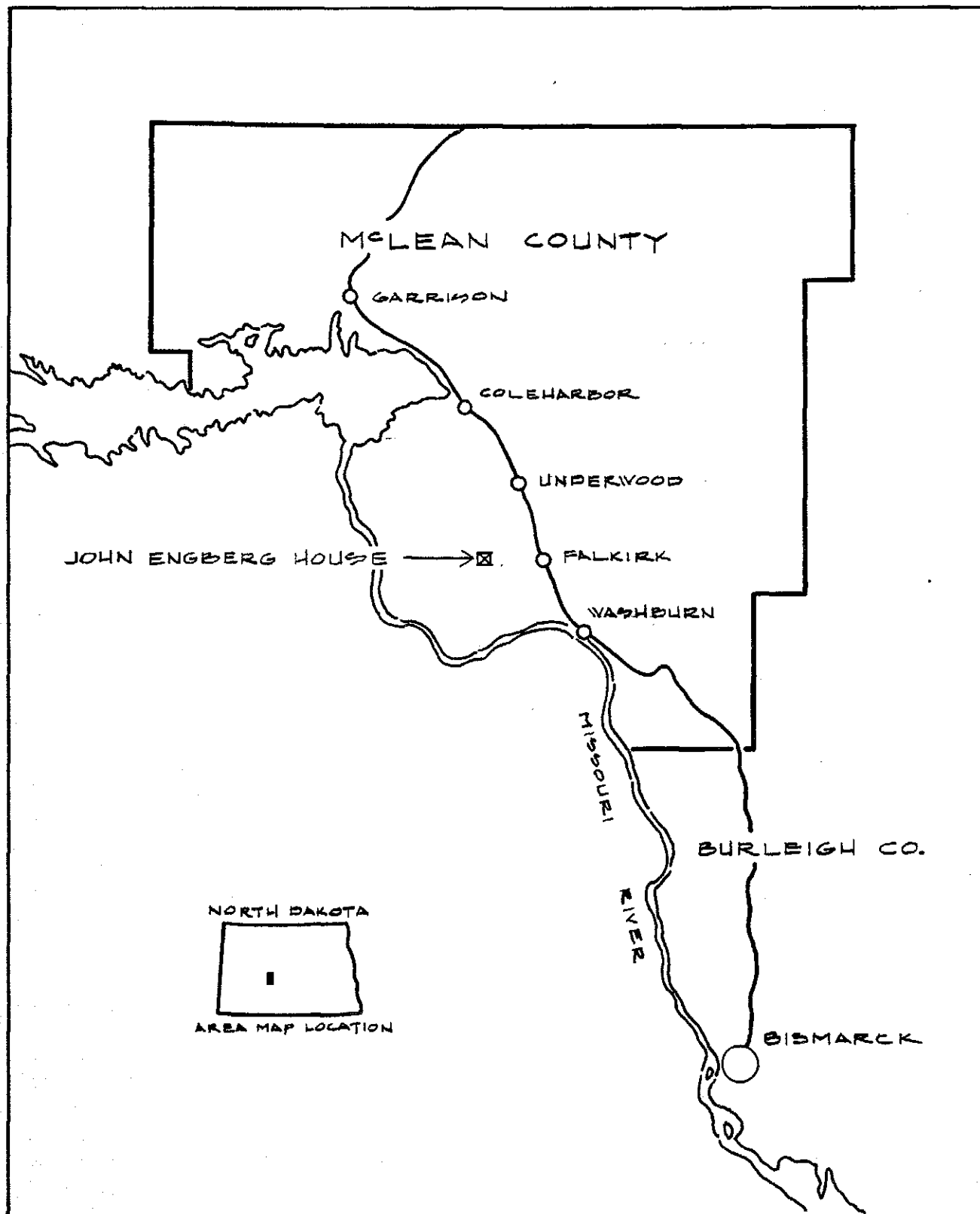


Figure 1. Location Map

The Northern Pacific's endorsement of Satterlund's promotional activities was not altogether altruistic. The railroad claimed nearly every odd-numbered section in the region as part of its land grant, and it thereby stood to gain financially as land values rose.⁸

Since Bismarck, the closest supply and trading center, was about fifty miles to the south, Satterlund also saw the need for a convenient town. After personally explaining his plans to President Villard of the Northern Pacific, the company sold him otherwise reserved land along the Missouri River for a townsite. In 1882, Satterlund platted (with John Veeder who held an adjoining homestead) and developed the town of Washburn.⁹

The first influx of Swedish settlers, known as the Hudson Colony, into McLean County, is John Satterlund's most well-known success in promoting the area. In 1881, railroad promotional activities captivated the interest of a group of landless Swedes around Hudson, Wisconsin. A committee of three from this group traveled west in the spring of 1882 "to locate land, where there was available wood, water and tillable soil." Failing to find suitable land in Minnesota, or eastern North Dakota, they finally arrived in Bismarck. Indirectly, through the Northern Pacific's land agent, the committee met Satterlund. He pointed them to a specific township just north of the future town of Washburn. The township met the colonists requirements, and by 1883, about 28 families filed on homesteads. Another 18 families joined the original settlers over the next few years.¹⁰

Concurrent with the Hudson Colony's arrival, other Swedes began homesteading in the Weller area of McLean County. The first of these settlers were apparently John W. Ecklund and John Daniel Carlson who arrived in 1882.¹¹ Several other Swedes joined them in 1883. One source describes "[t]heir hardships [as] many and those who could left this country, though others had to stay."¹² Some of the settlers wanting to leave found themselves so impoverished that they could not scrape together the necessary moving expenses.¹³ In 1887, at least seven additional Swedish families joined the earlier settlers in the Weller area. About twenty Swedish families lived in the Weller area in 1910.¹⁴

Besides the Hudson Colony and the Weller area, concentrated Swedish settlements also developed farther north in McLean County. In 1883, Swedes began homesteading in the Cole Harbor area, and in 1900-02, another group settled in the Malcolm area. The Swedes in the latter area largely came from Moorhead and Detroit, Minnesota.¹⁵

The 1890 census found Swedes comprising 50 percent of the foreign-born population of McLean County, and enumerated 184 Swedes out of a total foreign-born population of 365. In 1900, the foreign-born population of McLean County had increased to 1,770. Although the Swedish population rose to 257, its percentage of the total foreign-born population of the county decreased to approximately 15 percent. In 1900, German-Russians established themselves as the majority ethnic population of McLean County and their numbers comprised about 50 percent of the county's foreign-born population. The foreign-born Swedish population increased to 447 in 1910, but again its percentage of the county's total foreign-born population of 5,797 decreased to about eight percent. In 1965, 98 rural households in McLean County identified themselves as of Swedish origin. This was the second highest number found in any county in North Dakota.¹⁶

C. SWEDISH VERNACULAR BUILDING TRADITIONS

At the time of the Swedish migrations to the United States, wood was the traditional building material in Swedish vernacular architecture, although its use varied in different parts of the country depending upon its availability. In the heavily forested areas of the northern two-thirds of Sweden, farmers typically built using hewn horizontal logs with corner notching. In the hardwood areas of southern Sweden, houses were constructed of horizontal logs, but outbuildings often utilized spaced studs inserted into a sill. The space between the studs was filled with horizontal logs or boards. In the extreme southern areas of Sweden which lacked timber, builders used the same technique of placing studs in a sill, but filled the area between the studs with straw or hay (or occasionally bricks) in a wicker pattern. The walls were then plastered on both sides. When exterior siding was used, a common characteristic of Scandinavian ethnic architecture was to install it vertically. The use of siding in this configuration can be found on updated log buildings and in new frame construction.¹⁷

The most common floor plan for small Swedish farm houses from the eighteenth century onward was a single, multi-purpose room (stuga) with a small entrance hall and small kitchen located to one side. Larger farms often had two-room houses (parstuga) which consisted of two large rooms separated by a small entrance hall and kitchen. The second room (anderstuga) was used as a parlor. A somewhat varied plan of the single-room house was most often found in the southwestern parts of Sweden. This side-room house (framkammarsstuga) was similar to the single-room house with a small storage room located on one side of the larger multi-purpose room. It was not uncommon to find a half or full second story with any of these plans. Beginning in the nineteenth century, even larger houses, with four and six rooms in double rows, appeared on some Swedish farms.¹⁸

D. UPRIGHT LOG CONSTRUCTION IN McLEAN COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota has a wealth of ethnically-influenced vernacular buildings. Most of the buildings currently identified and documented are associated with settlers of Eastern European origin, including German-Russians, German-Hungarians, Estonians, and Bohemians. Following centuries old building forms and practices, these immigrants constructed houses and outbuildings of locally available materials such as stone and mud-brick.¹⁹

Examples of other ethnic European designs in North Dakota, besides those from Eastern Europe, are rare. For example, a survey in Stark County documented three stone houses constructed by Norwegians. Although some differences in designs and floor plans to neighboring eastern European houses were noted, the overall influence of the Eastern European building traditions on the Norwegians was undetermined.²⁰

The John Engberg house is a rare example of Swedish vernacular upright log construction.²¹ Excluding early fur trading and military forts, the Engberg house is the first documented building of upright log construction in North Dakota. As the result of the documentation of the Engberg house, two other extant upright log houses were identified in the immediate area. The John Daniel Carlson house (first room constructed in 1883) is located two miles west of the Engberg house, and the John Alfred Freborg house (constructed in 1898-99) is located about five miles to the north. Other upright log houses, now gone, also were built in McLean County.²²

Because the Swedes were the first ethnic settlers in McLean County, their upright log houses can be assumed to be unadulterated representations of Swedish vernacular building traditions, perhaps adapted to locally available materials, but without the influence of the traditions of neighboring ethnic groups. McLean County had a small population of German-Russian settlers by 1890. However, since late 1884 is generally accepted as the date of the earliest German-Russian movement into southern North Dakota, the German-Russians could not have arrived in McLean County until the latter half of the 1880s, several years after the first upright log houses were constructed.²³

As mentioned earlier, the John Engberg house is the first example of Swedish upright log construction to be documented in North Dakota. No other examples of this construction method are available for comparative purposes. To provide a preliminary basis for establishing the origins of the technique, and to evaluate similarities and differences in construction methods, the two other extant examples of upright log

houses were documented on a reconnaissance level. Both of these houses retain a greater level of architectural integrity than the Engberg house, and a clearer understanding of the construction sequence is available for one of the houses. The following discussion outlines the result of that historical and on-site work.

John Daniel Carlson may have built the first upright log house in McLean County. Carlson emigrated from Tingsas parish, Kronoberg lan, Sweden,²⁴ and two of his granddaughters are resolute in their belief that he utilized this building technique because "that is how it was done in Sweden."²⁵ Kronoberg lan is in the southern-most region of Sweden and it is the most productive agricultural area of the country. Because of the lack of trees due to clearing for crop land, farmers in this region constructed houses and outbuildings using studs placed on a sill.²⁶ The McLean County upright logs houses are likely adaptations of this technique.

John Carlson filed on his homestead in 1882. He spent his first winter in a dugout on the claim of John W. Ecklund, another Swede, at Elm Point on the Missouri River cutting cottonwood logs. Carlson used the logs to construct a one-room, 12 ft. by 16 ft., upright log house with a sod roof on his homestead the next year.²⁷

John Carlson gradually enlarged his house as his family expanded and his economic circumstances improved. All of the additions to the house utilized upright logs for their walls. Carlson added a 10 ft. by 16 ft. room to the north side of the house prior to 1888 when he returned to Sweden to bring his wife, and a son and daughter to North Dakota. At unknown dates, two-room additions were added to the east and west ends of the house. The east addition provided a parlor and bedroom and the west addition provided an entry hall and a summer kitchen.²⁸ The latter addition may reflect the cultural influence of the traditional Swedish house plan which had a small entry hall and a kitchen behind it.

The logs utilized for the walls of the Carlson house are 8 ft. 6 in. long (except for the kitchen walls which are shorter). They are attached to one another at third-points with hand hewn pegs and spiked to the sill with cut nails. The space between the logs is daubed with a mixture of clay and straw. A 15 in. deep beam exposed at the east end of the house was cut to accommodate roof rafters with a shallower pitch than those now existing. This suggests that the east addition must have been originally covered with a sod roof. Exposed portions of the floor structure in the northeast bedroom show a continuous surface of hewn logs. Whether this was the original floor surface with other materials added later is unknown. Likewise, the dining room ceiling appears also to have been constructed with a continuous surface of logs.

By 1902, the John Carlson house had almost reached its final form. Overall, the house measured 21 ft. by 42 ft. 5 in. The sod roof had been replaced with a half story, frame second floor. The new gable roof featured a characteristically Swedish, centrally-placed, gable-roofed wall dormer. The entire house also was sided with clapboard siding. In 1914, a full-length porch with turned posts and balusters was added to the south side.²⁹

John Carlson's son, Carl, also constructed a substantial upright log house (now demolished) on his homestead one mile east of his father's place. The date of the house is unknown, although Carl would have met the age requirements to file a homestead claim about 1890. (He received a patent to the claim in 1902.) A photograph of the house taken about 1908 shows a house similar in design to the final form of his father's house. The one-and-one-half gable-roofed building had a central wall dormer and a full-length front porch. Carl's house, however, also had a rear ell. Directly behind the house were two connected outbuildings also constructed of upright logs.³⁰

John Alfred Freborg constructed the other known extant upright log house in McLean County in 1898 or 1899. Freborg received his final homestead patent in January 1906. This house is approximately five miles north of the Engberg and two Carlson houses. Freborg was probably familiar with these houses since, in 1896, he married Alida Youngquist who had been raised on a homestead just south of the John Carlson place. About 1905, the Freborg's replaced their log house with a frame house. They moved the log house and adapted it for use as a granary.³¹

The Freborg upright log house measures 25 ft. 6 in. by 18 ft. The house has a symmetrical facade with a centrally-placed door flanked by double-hung windows. A single double-hung window is located at each end wall. The house was sided with drop siding prior to its move.

The upright logs are spiked at the floor into a square log or timber sill and at the top into a 2 in. thick plate. The spaces between the logs are filled with a daubing of clay and straw. The flooring is laid on poles about 6 in. in diameter. The top of the poles are hewn to provide a level nailing surface. The poles are mortised into the exterior sill. The date of the wood-shingled gable roof is unknown. Although the roof is not original, it appears to have been in place by the time the house was sided.

A cursory investigation of the interior of the house did not reveal whether the plan was originally one or two rooms. The interior of the upright logs showed evidence of having originally been white-washed. Of particular note is an 8 in. by 6 in. transverse central beam. This beam probably provided structural support for a sod roof.

Besides the upright log houses described above, other examples of this building technique also existed in McLean County. John Ecklund constructed a two-room upright log house on his homestead near Carlson in 1887. The house had a sod roof which was replaced with a frame roof two years later. This house reportedly had a fireplace for heating and cooking, and a clay stove.³² The McLean County History provides two historic photographs (unfortunately undated) that also document upright log construction. The X4 ranch house photograph shows upright log walls and a shallow pitched roof covered with sod. "M.J. Peck's barn" is constructed of upright logs, and also has a sod roof.³³

E. JOHN ENGBERG HISTORY

John Engberg filed a homestead application on the southeast quarter of Section 24, Township 145 North, Range 83 West, on April 15, 1884 and received his homestead patent on September 11, 1889. Historical information about Engberg is limited to information in his homestead case file.³⁴ No mention of Engberg was found in the local histories.

Engberg emigrated from Sweden to Boston when he was about 25 years old, and just eleven months before filing his homestead application. Engberg took up residence on his claim ten days after making the application. He immediately constructed a 13 ft. by 14 ft. sod house, and broke six acres of land. He planted one acre to potatoes and corn. He apparently completed all of this work within about a month, and then left the claim for five months to work on a farm near Fargo.³⁵

In September 1885, Engberg replaced the sod house with a one story, log house with a "dirt roof." The building measured 17 ft. by 25 ft. A bed, tables, chairs, and a stove comprised Engberg's furnishings.³⁶

By 1889, two other buildings, a 17 ft. by 27 ft. hewn log stable and a 17 ft. x 19 ft. hewn log granary, completed the homestead. These outbuildings sheltered Engberg's two oxen, a cow and calf, two hogs, and eight "fowl" along with a wagon, plows, harrow, and sled. An 83-foot deep well provided water.³⁷

Engberg steadily increased the acreage of his homestead under cultivation. To the original six acres broken in 1884, he added six acres in 1886, 18 acres in 1887, four acres in 1888, and 11 acres in 1889. Wheat consistently made up the primary planting, although Engberg apparently experimented with other crops, including potatoes, corn, oats, and millet. Along with the field crops, Engberg planted a garden every year.³⁸

How long Engberg remained on his homestead is unknown. He is not listed among the residents in the township in the 1900 U.S. Census. Engberg sold his property to Henry Grochow in 1903.³⁹

III. DESCRIPTION OF JOHN ENGBERG HOUSE

A. INTRODUCTION

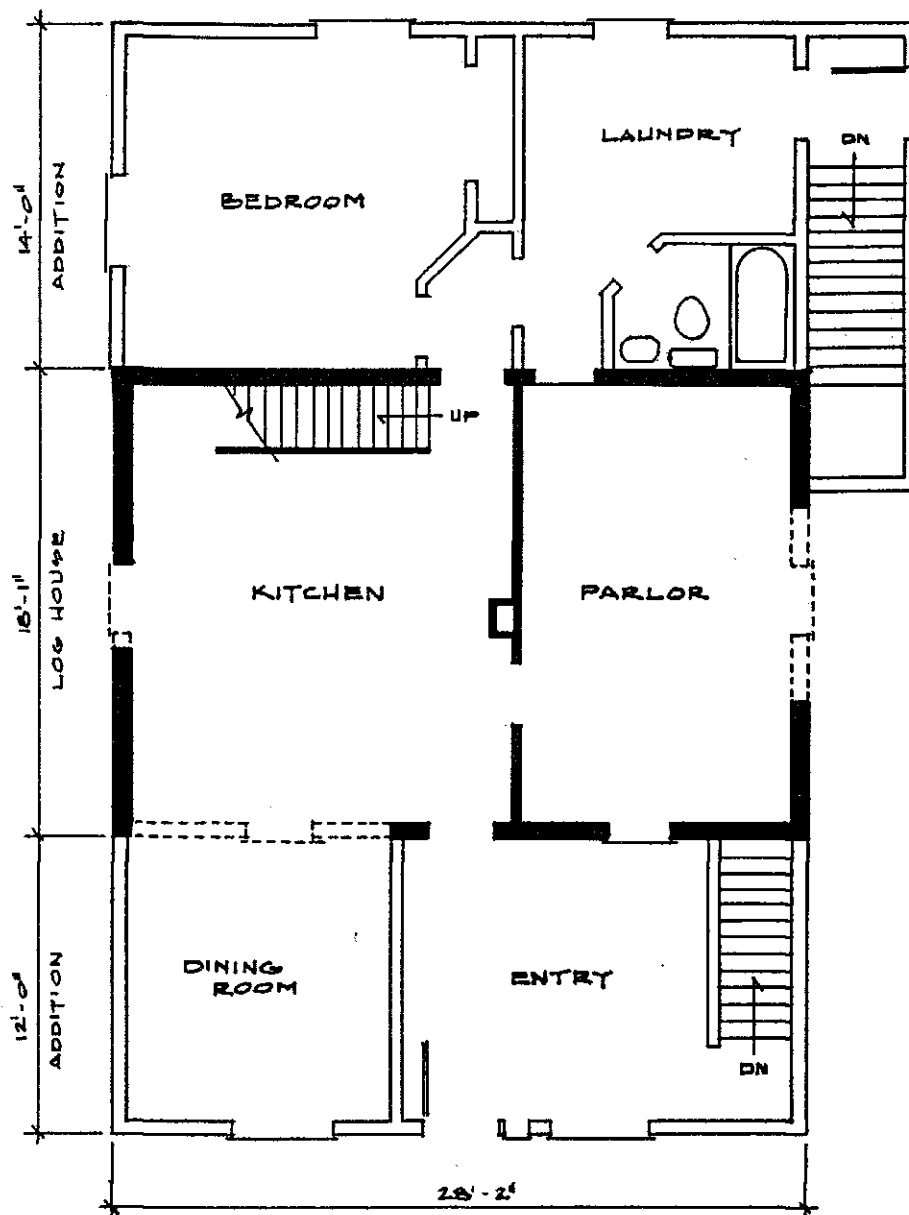
The John Engberg house is located in a rural area of McLean County, North Dakota, known as Weller. The farmstead sits on a slight rise just to the north of a graveled county road. It is bounded to the north, east, and west by cultivated fields and a windrow is located at the northeast corner. The house is one of nine buildings comprising the farmstead (see HABS photograph ND-26-1). With the exception of the house, all of the buildings were either constructed or moved to the site in the 1940s.⁴⁰

John Engberg's original log house has undergone extensive modifications over the years. At an early, but unknown date, a half-story, second floor was added and the entire house was sided. The log house is presently sandwiched between a shed roofed rear addition and an enclosed, hipped roofed front porch. A full basement was added beneath the house in 1982-83, and the interior and exterior of the house were extensively remodeled, including new window openings.⁴¹

Documentation of the house required the removal of the exterior siding and portions of the interior finishes from the upright logs on the west side. Selective interior demolition uncovered the only remaining, unmodified, original window opening, in the south wall of the living room and a blocked-in early door opening in the north wall. The floor system was fully visible from the basement.

B. EXTERIOR WALLS

The upright, cottonwood log portion of the Engberg house measures 18 ft. 1 in. by 28 ft. 2 in. The logs are 9 ft. long and are hewn on two sides (the sides which would serve as the interior and exterior surfaces) to a uniform 5½ in. thickness (see figure 3 and HABS photographs ND-26-2, -3, and -5). They stand on a 5½ in. square, sawn timber sill. The sill is lapped at the ends. The south sill has two 12 in. half-laps along its length (one located about two feet from the west wall and the other at about six feet from the east wall). A double, 2 in. by 6 in. plate is located on top of the logs (see HABS photograph ND-26-7). Four spikes (two on the interior and two on the exterior) fix the uprights to the sill and nails through the first plate attach the uprights at the top.



FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



Figure 2. John Engberg House Floor Plan

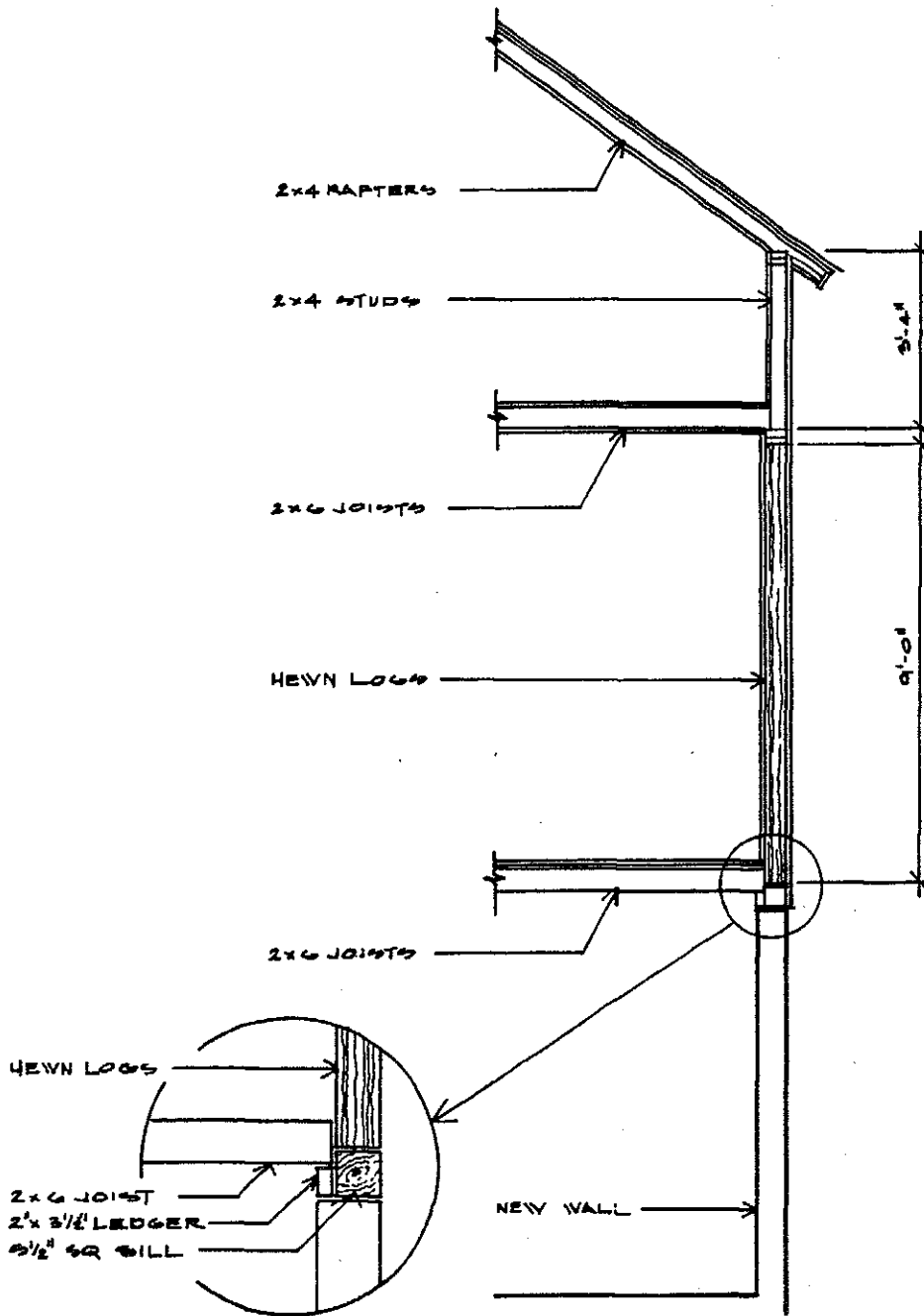


Figure 3. John Engberg House Wall Section

Exposure of the west wall of the building (see HABS photographs ND-26-2 and -4) showed that, although the majority of the uprights are log, at the southwest corner the builder also used two 5½ in. sawn timbers and a 2 in. by 6 in. board. The uprights are spaced about an inch apart, although the crookedness of the unhewn sides of the logs creates gaps of varying widths. The uprights are attached to each other at staggered heights near their centers with 1½ in. diameter hewn pegs driven about 4 inches into holes bored in the logs. No evidence of daubing is present.

C. EXTERIOR OPENINGS

Based upon the remaining physical evidence, the original facade of the house, facing south, was symmetrical. A centrally-placed door was flanked by single, double-hung windows. One window opening and the door opening remain, but evidence of the second window was obliterated when a number of logs were removed during the 1982-83 remodel. A single, double-hung window existed in both ends of the house. The west window opening, although modified, is still clearly visible, while evidence of an east window opening has been obliterated by a large picture window.

Openings for the original remaining window openings span the butts of three logs and also a few inches notched from the flanking full-length logs. The logs beneath the openings are attached to each other with dowels identical to those found at the mid-point of the full-length wall logs (see HABS photograph ND-26-6). The space above the window and below the top plate is filled with sawn boards.

Pencil marks across the face of the two logs adjoining the west (kitchen) window opening suggest that the measurement for the height of the window sill was made after all of the logs were in place. Unexplained pencil marks at the same height also were found across the interior face of the first three logs from the north corner. Other pencil marks are located on the exterior face of two of the three logs below the west window opening and on one of the notched logs. These marks appear to be the numeral seven with a European cross through its leg, a check mark, and a vertical line.

The opening for the exterior door was created by framing the space between logs with 2 in. by 6 in. sawn boards. These boards extend through the floor to the sill. Between the frame, and on top of the sill, 2 in. thick boards were placed on top of each other to provide support for the threshold at the height of the floor (see HABS photograph ND-26-10).

The walls of the house were covered with two layers of roofing felt prior to installation of the windows. The felt wraps from the interior to the exterior through the openings.

D. FLOOR SYSTEM

The floor joists are rough sawn lumber, 5½ in. deep. Most of the joists span the full width of the house (see HABS photographs ND-26-8, -9, and -10). They vary in width from about 1 ¾ in. to 2 ⅛ in., and are spaced roughly at anywhere from 14 in. to 16 in. on center. (There are also two 8 in. deep joists which serve no apparent structural purpose. They are notched on their lower sides at the exterior ledger.) At the exterior walls, the joists are toe-nailed into a 2 in. by 3½ in. ledger which is in turn spiked to the side of the sill (see figure 3). A 5½ in. square beam provided support for the joists at mid-span. (Most of this beam was removed when the basement was installed.) At the exterior east and west walls, a 1 in. thick board is nailed to the sides of the sill to provide a nailer for the flooring. The sub-flooring is 1 in. by 10 in. boards. The boards are covered with two layers of roofing felt and 1 in. by 4 in. tongue and groove flooring.

E. FLOOR PLAN AND INTERIOR

The Engberg house was originally two rooms with a kitchen and a parlor (or bedroom) (see figure 2). The interior walls in both rooms are sheathed with 1 in. by 4 in. double-beaded, tongue and groove boards placed horizontally (see HABS photograph ND-26-5). The ceilings are also covered with double-beaded boards.

The kitchen is the largest of the two rooms, measuring about 15 ft. x 17 ft. The exterior door opened directly into this room. A cellar access was located near the north wall, but later blocked in. The parlor measures 11 ft. x 17 ft. The two rooms are separated by a partition constructed of 2 in. by 4 in. studs placed flat and sheathed with double-beaded boards on both sides. The chimney was originally located at the center of this wall, but removed during the 1982-83 remodel. Over the years, the walls in the parlor received two coats of paint, two layers of wallpaper, a layer of fiberboard, and finally drywall.

F. LATER MODIFICATIONS

At an unknown date, the sod roof of the house was removed, and replaced with a one-half story second floor of frame construction. A stairway was constructed across the back of kitchen and enclosed with a partition of single, double-beaded boards.

The second floor has 2 in. by 4 in. studs placed at 16 in. centers and nailed into the double plate on top of the logs (see figure 3). They are topped with a double plate. The 2 in. by 4 in. rafters are also placed at 16 in. centers. The original wood shingles are laid on spaced sheathing and are now covered with asphalt shingles. The soffits are enclosed with 6 in. wide boards.

The walls and ceiling of the second floor were finished with lath and plaster at one time. The floors are 1 in. by 4 in. tongue and groove laid directly on the first floor ceiling joists (there is no sub-flooring). The lath and plaster was removed around 1930, the stud spaces insulated, and fiberboard installed on the walls and ceilings.

A full length shed roofed addition of frame construction was added to the rear of the house at an unknown date (but after the clapboard siding had been installed). The addition appears to have been used for two bedrooms, although the current owners believe it to have been a granary. Two doors, one from the kitchen and one from the parlor, were cut into the north wall of the house to access the addition. The door frames covered only the original coat of paint on the beaded board wall covering, suggesting an early construction date.

A full length, hipped roofed porch was also constructed across the front of the house at an unknown date. Its original appearance is unknown. A basement stairway beneath the porch floor was accessible through a trap door.

In 1982-83, the house underwent an extensive remodeling. The clapboard siding was covered with steel siding, and the front porch was incorporated into the house. New window openings were cut into the exterior walls, and new windows and doors were installed. A contemporary deck was added to the front of the house. The interior walls and ceilings were drywalled. The entire house was raised and a concrete block walled basement installed beneath it. A small addition that enclosed a new basement stairway was added at the northeast corner of the house.

G. UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

Some inconsistencies between the historical information and the physical evidence raise the question of whether this is, in fact, the house John Engberg constructed in 1885. These inconsistencies, discussed below, suggest that this may be a later house.

First, a discrepancy occurs between the measurements Engberg provided for the house on his homestead proof (17 ft. by 25 ft.) as opposed to an actual measurement of 18 ft. 1 in. by 28 ft. 2 in. Engberg also noted the presence of two hewn log outbuildings, while omitting that description from the logs for the house.

Second, there is no evidence of daubing between the logs. The two other extant examples of upright log construction in the area still have daubing visible beneath their later siding.

Third, the roofing felt used to wrap the walls passes through the window openings, so it was installed prior to the windows. The roofing felt also shows no evidence of having been exposed to the elements, thus suggesting the siding was installed immediately after the felt. The siding, however, covers the log walls and the frame walls of the half story second floor. The existence of a second floor is not consistent with Engberg's statement that the house had a sod roof. The logs on the west side of the house do not show the graying which would be expected by exposure to the elements, especially when compared with the Carlson house.

Arguing for the second floor being of later construction than the first floor, however, is evidence of the walls having been originally finished with lath and plaster, while the first floor walls are covered with beaded boards.

If the house was sided from the time of its initial construction, as some of the evidence suggests, a more puzzling question is raised. What was the purpose for using upright logs spaced so closely together (and without chinking to provide any type of insulation) when logs spaced farther apart would have provided adequate structural support for nailing the siding?

IV. FUTURE OF THE PROPERTY

The Falkirk Mining Company proposes to expand their mining operations in a 4,480 acre area southwest of Underwood, North Dakota. The expansion area includes all of the section in which the John Engberg house is located. The house will be demolished as a result of the expansion.

A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the area determined the John Engberg house to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. It was determined that the expansion project would have an adverse effect on the house. To mitigate this adverse effect, The Falkirk Mining Company agreed to undertake recording of the house to the standards of the Historic American Building Survey (HABS). This historical narrative and accompanying photographs are the principal products of the HABS recordation.

V. ENDNOTES

1. The reports not referenced otherwise in this document are: James C. Dahlberg and others, "Historical and Archaeological Survey and Testing Project - Proposed Mining Area - Falkirk Mine, McLean County, North Dakota," by Historical and Archaeological Surveys, Inc. Report prepared for The Falkirk Mining Company, August 1981; Lynelle A. Peterson and others, and Joan Brownell, "Falkirk, A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Expanded Mining Area, McLean County, North Dakota," by Ethnoscience and Headwaters Cultural Research. Report prepared for Falkirk Mining Company, May 1994.
2. John Boughton and Joan Brownell, "A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Falkirk Mine Riverdale Extension, McLean County, North Dakota," by Ethnoscience and Headwaters Cultural Resources [sic]. Report prepared for the Falkirk Mining Company, March 1994. Also see, North Dakota Cultural Resources Survey Site Form for the John Engberg Farmstead, SITS #32ML856. On file at the Division of Archeology and Historic Preservation, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Bismarck, ND.
3. Playford V. Thorson, "Scandinavians," in Plains Folk: North Dakota's Ethnic History, ed. William C. Sherman and Playford V. Thorson (Fargo, ND: North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies at North Dakota State University, 1986), 214.
4. Ibid, 214-220; For a detailed description of Swedish settlement in North Dakota up until 1910, see, Myrtle Bemis, "History of the Settlement of Swedes in North Dakota," in Collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, ed. O.G. Libby, vol. III (Bismarck, ND: Tribune, State Printers and Binders, 1910).
5. Playford V. Thorson, 216. Thorson mistakenly dates the initial settlement of Swedes in McLean County to the late 1880s. McLean County was created in March 1883 from parts of Stevens, Sheridan, and Burleigh counties.
6. John Boughton and Joan Brownell, "A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Falkirk Mine Riverdale Extension, McLean County, North Dakota."
7. Playford V. Thorson, 219-220; For a detailed biography of Satterlund see, Mary Ann Barnes Williams, Pioneer Days of Washburn North Dakota and Vicinity (Washburn, ND: privately printed, 1936; reprint, n.p.: BHG, Inc., 1995).

8. Kurt P. Schweigert, "Historic Sites Evaluation in Falkirk Mine Area E, McLean County, North Dakota," by Cultural Research & Management, Inc., p. 46. Report prepared for The Falkirk Mining Company, April 1985.
9. Ibid., 44.
10. Mary Ann Barnes Williams, Pioneer Days of Washburn, North Dakota and Vicinity, 22-25. The requirement for available wood was met by purchasing a half-section of timberland along the Missouri River which was sub-divided into parcels and sold to the homesteaders.
11. McLean County Historical Society, comp., McLean County Heritage (Dallas, TX: Taylor Publishing Company, 1978); Emily Louise Carlson Backman with assistance from Amanda Carlson, "Remembrances." Typescript in possession of Emily Carlson Backman and Amanda Carlson, Bismarck, ND; "Woman is writing legacy of the past," Bismarck Tribune. Undated article about Irene Reimers, granddaughter of John W. Ecklund. Copy in possession of Emily Carlson Backman and Amanda Carlson, Bismarck, ND.
12. Myrtle Bemis, "History of the Settlement of Swedes in North Dakota," 276.
13. Amanda Carlson and Emily Carlson Backman, Interview by Lon Johnson, November 9, 1995, Bismarck, ND. John David Carlson provided this reason for not moving to his granddaughters.
14. Myrtle Bemis, "History of the Settlement of Swedes in North Dakota," 276.
15. Ibid, 276-77. For future surveys of Swedish ethnic architecture in McLean County it should be noted that in 1910, eight of the thirty two adult members of the Malcolm Swedish Lutheran Church listed themselves as having emigrated from Kronoberg lan in southern Sweden. This is the same area from which John Daniel Carlson came.
16. John Boughton and Joan Brownell, "A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Falkirk Mine Riverdale Extension McLean County, North Dakota."
17. Lena A:son-Palmqvist, Building Traditions Among Swedish Settlers in Rural Minnesota (Uddevall, Sweden: Risbergs tryckeri, 1983), 40, 43, 44. This survey did not identify any upright log buildings in the two counties surveyed. Some outbuildings and barns were found with vertical siding. Mike Koop of the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office is unaware of any upright log houses in the state.

18. Lena A:son-Palmqvist, 18-22.

19. For example see, Lon Johnson and others, "Ethnic Architecture in Stark County, North Dakota: A Historic Context," by Renewable Technologies, Inc. Report prepared for Division of Archeology and Historic Preservation, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Bismarck, North Dakota, 1991.

20. Ibid.

21. Upright log (rather than vertical log) is being used since it is the nomenclature used by John Daniel Carlson's granddaughters.

22. See later discussion in this section.

23. For a discussion of German-Russian settlement patterns in North Dakota see, Timothy J. Kloberdanz, "Volksdeutsch: The Eastern European Germans," in Plains Folk: North Dakota's Ethnic History.

24. Emily Louise Carlson Backman with assistance from Amanda Carlson, "Remembrances."

25. Amanda Carlson and Emily Carlson Backman.

26. See discussion in Section II, C.

27. Emily Louise Carlson Backman with assistance from Amanda Carlson, "Remembrances."

28. Emily Louise Carlson Backman with assistance from Amanda Carlson, "Remembrances." This typescript provided most of the historical information about John Daniel Carlson and the house. This typescript also includes a room-by-room description, and tells how the kitchen fixtures were moved into the dining room each fall. A picture of the John Carlson house, c. 1902, appeared in, "Sixth Generation in Carlson Land Today," Washburn Leader, 7 July 1982.

29. Ibid.

30. The utilization of upright logs for Carl Carlson's house and outbuildings was provided by Carl's nieces, Amanda Carlson and Emily Carlson Backman and Amanda Carlson. A picture of the farmstead, c. 1908, appeared in, "Sixth Generation in Carlson Land Today," Washburn Leader, 7 July 1982.

31. McLean County Historical Society, comp., McLean County Heritage; Layton Freborg (John Freborg's grandson), interview by Lon Johnson, 8 November 1995, Underwood, ND.

32. The utilization of upright logs by Ecklund was provided by Amanda Carlson and Emily Carlson Backman. Historical information about the house is from an undated article entitled, "Woman is writing legacy of the past," Bismarck Tribune, no date.

33. McLean County Historical Society, comp., McLean County Heritage. The X4 ranch house photograph is on page 591. The M.J. Peck barn photograph is on page 11.

34. John Engberg Case File, Final Certificate No. 1317, National Archives, Washington, D.C. These case files are presently being moved to Archives II at College Park, Maryland.

35. Ibid.

36. Ibid.

37. Ibid.

38. Ibid.

39. For a description of title transactions of the John Engberg homestead see, North Dakota Cultural Resources Survey Site Form, SITS #32ML856.

40. For a detailed physical and historical description of the buildings at the John Engberg farmstead see, North Dakota Cultural Resources Survey Site Form, SITS #32ML856.

41. Ibid.

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